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the Colony should be forward
have government through St
MacDonnell, if the Colony be
seeing telegraphic communica
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There is a vague suspicion a
the leading firms of China do
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with Europe or between the pu
lished. The rumour may be a
or it may be true, but it is essen
should be either acknowledged
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public meeting or a memorial
all favorably interested in the
If the signatures of the leadin
commerce were wanting, it w
sufficient proof that they were
the idea.

An American company is at present moment actively engaged in for a telegraphic campaign in the East, and we may conclude that the enterprise will for some years take the lead in inaugurating and other material aids of civilization. We have referred to the position of the Post-Office scheme rather as an indication of the future than as of immediate consideration, it depends upon the attitude as British merchants at the present time, in fact, a convenient way that the well being of Britishness years hence may be benefited by the aid or obstruction of the telegraphic enterprise as regards telegraphic enterprise present generation of residents; this point of view we commend attention.

—HORSES—AND DONKEYS
We have more than once called
attention to the disgraceful want of police
control which renders the roads
strong impassable nuisances from
travelling hordes of leading and
horses upon every available part
of the island. Every one complains
of the laxity of police regulation,
they be riders, or drivers, or
they make use of chairs or other
vehicles, and the night of a runaway
Chinaman, "in tow" yesterday
reminded us that the ornaments
are particularly useful. Superintendent
Police has taken no notice of
the circumstances which have ap-
peared of the subject. We are
quoted the ordinance enacted
the public thoroughfares from
private training grounds. But
of reminder, again refer the
who are naturally unacquainted
law affecting their duties, to

No. 14 of 1845, in the 9th section which it is made punishable to "to turn loose, clean, dress or train-or break any horse or animal," is well known that horses are "exercised" and "broken," on lig highways; and that the matter has no attention from those zealous of the city known (on the *la*) *legendo* principle) as "Police."

It is fully to suppose that a however inconvenienced, can either take into custody a person leading a horse or find a policeman wanted." The only other reason follow the coolie to his destination is surely to be expected of and yet the nuisance experienced is very great. A most simple might be provided in appointing hours in which coolies might in certain thoroughfares. No person can object to the Queen being used at any time, because chief thoroughfare of the island and that every other road is similarly filled with often rest just at the time when the walk or ride is an institution of the community, is too bad.

The police doing anything, a put agitate for a little legislation to them. Horses, like human beings have air and exercise, but they need to make the house of man dance than the residents of the

LOCAL.

We remind our readers of the fact that the annual meeting of the Club is to take place at the Club tomorrow evening. It will present many interesting and valuable attractions. The ladies and gentlemen who compose the company have a reputation for high character and are well known in India, the Bombay Presidency and the surrounding countries. They are exceedingly enthusiastic in their participation in the work of the Club.

We learn from Canton, that the Races took place on Thursday last, with great success and under very able circumstances with respect to the weather.

We have been favoured with the particulars of the winning parties as follows:—*1st Race*, Anson (Hongkong); *2nd Race*, (Canton); *3rd Race*, Camundrum (Hongkong); *4th Race*, Dumbt (Canton); *5th Race*, Anson (Hongkong); *6th Race*, (Hongkong); *7th Race*, Camundrum (Hongkong); *8th Race*, Buford Terrible (New York); *9th Race*, ball, inaugurating the new Club-House on Shameen, was a most successful evening by a large number of residents, and was highly successful.

THE TREASURE ROBBER.

We have already stated that the robbery of treasure has been effected from Messrs. Jardine's steamship, and that, from the fact of the crew having been taken into custody, an organization of an insurrection must have been at work in the robbery. The facts appear to be like the following: Six boxes of treasure were shipped by Messrs. Sassoon & Co. to Calcutta on the *Recluse* hence to Calcutta on the downward trip, and a receipt for the same was obtained from the Chief officer of the ship. The boxes were delivered and stored them in the room. This treasure, it is believed, was taken to its port of destination in the manner of the robbery of the *Recluse*.

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the robbery of a steamer named *the Discoverer*, which was captured by the cutter *Albatross* on the 23d of July. The cutter was then ordered to proceed to the mouth of the river, where it was expected that the steamer would appear. The cutter was then ordered to proceed to the mouth of the river, where it was expected that the steamer would appear. The cutter was then ordered to proceed to the mouth of the river, where it was expected that the steamer would appear.

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highly prized by the people, who despise

the ore which abounds on the opposite coast of Shantung.

From—As might be anticipated, this ore is of the same character. It is found in many places towards the Shantung coast, but in greater or lesser quantities, but the most famous district is that on the East Coast to the North of the P'y-li-ho river. Here we passed over gold diggings and a gold producing country, about 40 miles in length by 10 broad. Last year a serious quarrel arose among the gold seekers, which resulted in murder, and on the part of the mandarins interfered and sent an end to the quarrel. This is the present. We also heard of Gold in the district which may be interpreted the "Gold-district city."

SILVER, COPPER, LEAD.—Silver is said to exist in the mountains to the West of Li-shan-fan, Lat. 40° 25' Long. 121° 50' and also in other places, but of course it was impossible for me, passing through the country, to obtain much definite information as to the extent of this kind. There can be no doubt of the existence of the mountains in Japan, Formosa, Korea, and Aleutian Islands. Moreover, as M. Elie de Beaumont has shown, "the coincidence with the great circle of the terrestrial sphere which passes by the Cordilleras of South America and the Rocky Mountains of the North," whence we may infer that the mountain system of Oriental Asia and that of the Great American chain are of the same date. But a still more important inference appears equally evident, that mineral wealth must be distributed in similar proportions in both continents. We know this to be true of Coal and Iron, which are always the first minerals to be discovered: for in no quarter of the world excepted America have we such extensive coal and iron fields as in China, and there is little doubt that the magnetic ore in Vancouver is the same as that which abounds in North-China. The same appears also in reference to gold. California and Columbia lie in nearly the same parallels of latitude on the opposite coast of the Pacific Ocean; and the distribution of gold here appears quite equal to that in America. It is found in the affluents of the Yangtze Kiang on the extreme west, in Shensi, where the Jesuit fathers tell us that the livelihood of many of the people is gained there by alluvial mining for the stone for which it abounds in Shantung, Core, Japan, Manchuria; and not only so, but there are great gold diggings scattered here and there in Mongolia and Siberia. Few knew ought of the great extent of the coal and iron, and no one had any idea of the abundance of silver, copper, lead etc., etc., in the present State, till the recent scientific investigations made by the American Government disclosed the hidden treasures; and so we venture to predict that were a similar investigation to be made here, it would lead to discoveries equally astounding.

AGENTS' COMMISSIONS.
(*Supreme Court & Consular Gazette*,
Dec. 14th.)

A point of very considerable interest to mercantile men came under notice in the case of *Jardine, Matheson & Co. versus the Master of the Strathmore*, recently heard in the Summary division of the Supreme Court. Divested of collateral circumstances and technical considerations, the question at issue was whether the charter of a vessel for a claim commission upon a charter of a vessel which he had not actually concluded, but towards the settlement of which he had assisted, by the charter was made prior to any revocation of his authority to act as agent. Upon the broad and incontestible principle of law that an agent is entitled to claim commission upon any contract concluded by the payment of which his services have been procured, and to the satisfaction of his authority to do this, the Master of the Court decided the case in favour of the plaintiff; of whose assistance towards the completion of the contract it happened there could be no doubt, as the charter which was concluded by the captain was one for a voyage for which the plaintiffs, acting as charterers, were bound to charter a vessel on behalf of the very Chinese firm to whom he had made the charter; and, though the terms offered at that time were less than those afterwards ultimately agreed upon, there seemed very probability that Jardine, Matheson & Co. could have concluded the charter at the rate accepted by the captain; but for his having refused to take any charter at all upon the Coast. Of the correctness of the decision arrived at in the case under review, there is no question; as no doubt existed as to the effect of the charter actually entered upon the ultimate completion of the contract. We should have been glad, however, had a decision been given in a case where the charter ultimately concluded was not one which had been previously offered to the defendant by the plaintiffs, but merely such a charter as under the ordinary circumstances of business a House of ship-agents might be expected to procure.

In such a case, the matter would have been of more extended interest as being more generally applicable. The point upon which it would turn is this—Could it be held that in merely acting as agents to the extent of endeavouring, by the usual mode of business, to procure a charter for a vessel, a house could be considered as having performed a service, which, directly or indirectly, was towards the settlement of such charter, and might consequently be said to have been engaged upon? This, it is clear, is a matter of fact, and should fairly be left to the decision of a jury. What then are the facts applying to such a case in Shanghai? They are of a peculiar nature and such as we think would in ordinary circumstances, justify a jury or a Judge acting on the basis of fact, in coming to a conclusion in the affirmative. It is very well known that the mere existence of a foreign firm, and its agents towards the conclusion of charters and other contracts, for strangers coming to the port, more especially when the persons here entering into contracts happen to be Chinamen. Furthermore, for instance, a ship captain arriving in a place altogether without the means of obtaining the assistance of any foreigner situated upon the spot. What would be the result? Clearly that he would either lose a considerable amount of time in endeavouring to discover a suitable vessel, or, if a ship, or a house, could be procured, he would have to make a commission in all probability, for

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A vertical line with a dark, textured background on the right and a lighter, speckled background on the left. The line is slightly irregular and has a small notch or break near the top.

